## CHANCEY M. DEPEW'S VIEWS

The Well-Known American Talks Entertainingly on Important Topics.

American and European Railways Compared -The German Iron-Clad "Systems"-The French and the German Soldiers.

Ipecial Correspondence of the Indianapolis Journal. PARIS, France, Sept. 16 .- "One thing is quite pertain," said Mr. Chauncey M. Depew to me he other day, as he sat in his parlor at the Hotel d'Albe on the Champs-Eiysees, "that no sailway company in the United States could run rains on the European plan and retain its charer. The whole system over here seems to me to be a species of barbarism that smacks of the middle ages, and I will tell you why I think so. in the first place, no one is safe in these small compartments. You are left there alone with several utter strangers, perhaps only two or three ind often but one. And this one may be a thief, a lunatic, or even a murder, with the other as his confederates. Under such conditions, then, you are shut up in a miserable box for an hour or more, while the train, thundering on, drowns any cries that you sould make in case of an attack. The signal bell is out of reach, and if you are unarmed, or doze for a moment, you are quite at the mercy of any villain who may be traveling with you. Fortunately, the evil consequences of this system are not so great in Europe as they certainly would be in the United States, for here the criminal classes seem to be less daring than with us. But, even as it is, robberies, murders and assaults are so frequent on Continental railways as to convince any fair-minded person that men travel in Europe at the risk of their lives, and women at the risk of their houor.

"Then compare the two systems as regards conveniences offered to the public. I pass over untouched what travelers in America have long since learned to consider as railway necessities, but which are absolutely unknown over here. I refer to adequate arrangements for eating, sleeping, lighting, heating, amusement, etc.

"But I must emphasize one glaring deficiency, which is so utterly inexcusable that in the United States it would simply cause a riot. I mean the fact that continental trains are without even the most primitive toilet conveniences. The annoyance and suffering occasioned thereby is incalculable. Think of the feeble women and elderly men, of the invalids and children, who are forced to put up with such monstrous neglect. To be sure the companies pretend to furnish these accommodations at the stations, but as the runs are very long, the stops short and the weather often inclement, many persons are unable to leave the train and take advantage of even these wretched accommodations.

"Here is an illustration of the abuses of this system. I mention a case which has come under my own personal observation. An Amercan lady left her seat to enter one of these cabinets, and she was actually locked in and kept there until the train had moved off simply because, having left ber purse in the cars, she was unable to pay the few sous which were

"Another serious discomfort on European railways is caused by the incessant jolting, due very largely to the small size and faulty construction of the cars. If you happen to ride in the forward carriage of one of their express trains, you are thrown up and down and from side to side with a violence which would only be equaled in the United States on one of the old corduroy roads over a Western prairie, where the rails had been laid simply on the ground without grading.

"Do I object to government ownership of the roads, which is very common here in Europe? Of course I do, and most decidedly. I believe in proper legislation, both to protect the public against extortion and to prevent unjust discrimination; but aside from such restrictive action, and with proper railroad commissions as tribunals for the prompt and inexpensive disposition of grievances and the enforcement of the laws, I maintain that the government should have no authority over the railroads of a country. One single argument disposes of the ques-tion as far as the United States are concerned. Suppose that our railroads were controlled from Washington. Is it not perfectly plain that, with the existing civil-service laws, the party in power, supported as it would be by the votes of nearly a million railroad employes, could be overthrown by nothing short of a revolution?

"But this is not the only objection. Under our present railroad system, the bitter struggle between rival companies force each to raise its standard of excellence to the very highest point. Improvements are being constantly introduced, new inventions are eagerly sought after, courtesies and concessions are extended to the public in various ways; in a word, railroad directors are forced to study to the uttermost the general comfort, safety and welfare of the community on which they rely for patronage. These numerous advantages accrue to the people as the result of competition; but government monopoly means death to competition, and therefore death to all railroad enterprise and progress.

'A dozen ra way lines vie with each other for the traffic betwe " New York and Chicago, but a Frenchman leaving Paris has no choice. One company will take him south, but only one; another ru. s to the west or north, but neither has a rival; and it is so in every part of France. The result is, therefore, that while free competition has blessed the United States with the model railway system of the world, France, lingering still in the darkness of monopoly, has not yet even seen the vastness of her own in-"Had railway science attained its ultimate de-

velopment, the government might control our lines successfully. But railway science is very far from having said its last word, and no government would keep abreast with the progress of discovery, as is being done from month to mouth by our great private companies. As to improvements which are still to come, electric motors, electric lighting, etc., a railroad man is essentially an optimist, believing all things possible in the way of rapid transit, except aerial Lavigation. "Another weighty argument against the sys-

tem of State monopoly hes in the difficulties experienced by travelers in securing, under it, satisfaction or redress, for wrongs or losses of any kind. Complaints become practically suits against the government, and a man's estate is eaten up by lawyers, and his grandson laid away in the grave before anything tangible results from an appeal to justice.

"I will illustrate the antocratic character of European government railway management by two incidents which I know to be authentic. A party of American students, traveling through Bermany, reached the station just as their train was starting. An official called out to them not to attempt getting on; but, as the cars were noving slowly, they paid no attention to his saution and stepped aboard. The result was that at the next stop they were met by a guard of soldiers, and all marched off under arrest.

"At first the young Americans treated the whole affair as a huge joke, and inquired with mock seriousness when the trial would come off. But they changed their tone on being informed that, having deliberately violated an ordinance of the German Empire, they had been already tried, convicted and sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment. In fact, before they realized the gravity of their situation, they were behind iron bars in the city jail, and it required the pfluence of the American legation at Berlin, together with the most humiliating apologies on their own parts, to effect their release.

"A friend of mine was the hero of the other incident, which happened at the Frankfort depot. He was about to enter a compartment, where several seats were vacant, when he distinctly saw one of the gentlemen inside slip a gold piece into the hand of the guard, who immediately declared that the compartment was 'reserved' and that no one else could ride in it. My friend was so angry that he at once accused the fellow of having received a bribe, and, on the charge being denied, he added, with American directness, that the guard was 'a har and a thief.' The train moved off, my friend being forced to find another seat. At the first station, he was arrested for having insulted a government official, and finally, after a great deal of trouble, followed a lawyer's advice, made a full apology, paid all the costs and a heavy fine, and left the sountry in disgust. Just imagine-if you cansuch a thing happening in the United States! FRANCE AND GERMANY.

"You ask me what I think of the present politcal situation in France. Of course I have been in the country too short a time to express an opinion as details, but I have seen with immeasgrable surprise the hysterical condition into which the whole country was thrown by this Boulanger 'boom.' The symptoms of disease shown then were grave enough to disturb the faith of anyone in the stability of the French Republic. It seemed four or five months ago as if the people were quite ready for a coup-d'etat in the name of the idolized 'Baker.' But he was not great enough or brave enough to take the tide of favor at its flood, and now has sunk back to comparative insignificance. However, when the war breaks out for the recovery of Alsace and Lorraine, Boulanger's chance may come again. If Germany wins the first battle, the French people will rise up as one man, with overwhelming enthusiasm, call back their banished hero, and charge him to lead the armies of

"Do I think the French soldier the equal of his German rival? That is a difficult question to answer. I know that it is customary to laugh at the French troops as being undersized badly dressed, poorly officered, etc.; and certain ly, in point of external appearance, the German soldier seems to me the ideal of a perfect fighting machine. They are such large, fine looking fellows, and so splendidly disciplined, that the average tourist at once decides in their favor. But there is another side to the question. have heard one of our United States army officers speak in the very highest terms of the French army, maintaining that there is no soldier on the face of the earth like a well-trained Gaul. He claims that the little Frenchman, with his fine, nervous organization, his wiry, sinewy frame, his dash, his enthusiasm, and his Bohemian habits, is vastly better prepared to endure the hardships of a fierce campaign, to march and fight without proper food and sleep, than is the German. Certainly, in our own civil war, it was demonstrated over and over again that the slender city clerk, who would often dance all night and write all day, could out-fight the rugged farmer's boy who had always lived out of doors, and had seen the sun rise every morning of his life. But, notwithstanding the opinion of my military friend, the German army is the most perfect and magnificent machine I ever saw. THE ENGLISH REPUBLIC.

"You ask me if I have anything to say about England. Well, my impressions of the Prince of Wales may be of interest. I had the honor of dining and lunching with His Royal Highness, and was impressed with the fact that the Prince

was one of the best-informed Englishmen, particularly on American affairs, that I had ever met. He takes the most lively and sincere interest in all that goes on in the United States. and is very earnest in the desire that the relations between the two countries be cordial and harmonious.

"In conversation the Prince of Wales has a way of almost cross-examining the person with whom he is talking, which enables him to gain an immense amount of information that he could not obtain in any other manuer. I found him quite familiar with the names of our various public men, with what they have done and are doing, and he showed, by his questions, a profound understanding of our present political situation.

"Although, as I said, the Prince has in conversation this way of cross-examination, it is not done at all offensively; in fact, he is a consummate master of the art of making every man appear at his best by encouraging him to speak on subjects that are familiar to him. He possesses another art, too, which is one of the rarest and most essential of public gifts, that of paying those he has met the honor of remembering them. Notwithstanding the thousands of persons who are presented to him every year, the Prince of Wales never fails to recognize a single one of them on a future occasion, and will often even show by some delicate allusion that

he recalls the circumstances of the first meeting. "Some people talk a great deal about the establishment of a republic in England, but I am of the opinion that the cause of monarchy will be strengthened when the Prince of Wales comes to the throne. He possesses the popular instinct to a high degree, and on listening to a speech which he made in London I was astonshed at the vigorous directness of his style. He showed a great familiarity with the public needs and a deep concern in providing for them. Indeed, I thought that he spoke very much like an American. On the whole, the Prince struck me as a man of marvelous tact, knowing just what to do and what not to do, and, in the difficult position which he has had to fill, the future King has certainly succeeded in winning the enthusiastic regard of the English people.

"As regards English hospitality, I cannot speak in high enough terms. Englishmen may be cold, indifferent, or perhaps even rude in their treatment of strangers, but as soon as it is known that you are worthy of their friendship, no welcome can be more cordial than that

which they give you at their homes.
"One of the ablest and most interesting men whom I met, during my stay in London, was Lord Wolseley. Speaking of our late war, he said that, as is customary in such cases, England sent a number of officers over to the United States, one-half of whom served with the Union army and the others with the South, the idea being, of course, that they would in this way, acquire a larger amount of useful knowledge than if all bad gone with one army. Well, the point that General Wolseley made was that, although they left England without any special prejudice one way or the other, they all came back fully convinced of two things: first, that the United States possessed wonderful military strength; and secondly, that the side on which they had fought was in the right, and had the best led army. As both armies were composed of Americans, the compliment was complete.

"Do I approve of limiting the right of suffrage in the United States! Most decidedly I do not; neither by educational requirements, nor by property qualifications, nor by any other restrictions. The slightest limitation of the right of every man to cast his vote would result in the establishment in our country of classes and class privileges, and the glory of institutions is that the government is in the hands of every man alike, while every citizen is thus equal before the law. I am well aware of the fact that ignorance and poverty have much to do with the perversion of our elections, but the remedy does not lie in isolating those unfortunate people from the rest of the community. We must rather raise them up to the common level. Let them have the ballot, for it is theirs by right; but give them also education, so that they may use the ballot rightly. 'More light,' as Victor Hugo said, is what we need. There would be no bad government, State or municipal, in America, if every citizen took a proper interest in public affairs. Our great difficulty is the indifference of hundreds of thousands to politics, which is government. A great crisis arouses them and then they demonstrate their power, but it is only when spurred by heavy burdens, or outraged by great wrongs, that they will lay aside private business, or personal comfort, long enough to take hold and set things straight."

CLEVELAND MOFFETT.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

Robust Health the Greatest Personal Charm-Congress for the Advancement of Women.

The Health of Actresses.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. NEW YORK, Oct. 1 .- The most charming actresses on the stage are, with rare exceptions, women of robust health. Personal charm has quite as much to do with success on the boards as mental ability, perhaps more; and personal charm-that something which lies deeper than mere beauty and is called, for want of a better word, "magnetism"-depends, to a wonderful extent, on the physical condition of the actress. Clara Morris is a flat contradiction? Yes, but ber uncannily absorbing art is scarcely more than a study of pathology. One could not call ber charming, as men, who are the great theater-goers, understand the word, though Oscar Wilde did profess himself smitten and expressed a desire to see her in a low-necked dress, which desire was gratified by a lady who introduced the two at an evening reception somedays

later. Mrs. Langtry's manager once told me that the Lily was the best matinee attraction on the stage. That is, she is attractive to women as well as to men. Her healthy English color has paled of late and she uses too much of the cosmetics she puffs, but her beauty is still the beauty of good health, and her complexion, when she lets it alone, the product of clear blood and plenty of exercise. She is a famous walker and must regret her quarrel with Coghlan, if only for the chance it lost her of still further advertising in his new play her skill with the foils. Coghlan's sister is a woman whose success has defied the analysis of clever critics. Rose Coghland is not pretty, at least her face is not, but two generations have raved over her beauty. Her first appearance as Rosalind, in New York, packed the theater. Her admirers could not be counted. Her rude health is the only explanation, that and the less important possession of a fair allowance of brains. Rose is rugged and

her vigor is infectious. When Daly took his company to England the London Times called Ada Rehan "pawky." None of us in America knew what the word meant, but it sounded badly and looked worse, and we were inclined to be angry about it until the explanation came that "pawky" was a provincialism for charmingly healthy or healthily charming. Ada Rehan is a wholesomely well woman, and nobody who ever witnessed her triumphant entry upon the stage in "A Night Off" or "Nancy & Co." could doubt that her instant and easy mastery over her audience is gained almost entirely by the breezy air of health

she carries with her. It is the same with Carrie Turner. She is no beauty, but she is so beautifully healthy that not one person in ten who sees her calls her face to severe account. Mrs. George Gould, before she became the mother of the only baby whose long clothes were ever photographed for daily newspaper illustration, was, as Miss Kingdon, a vigorous girl well cared for by a good mother, extremely fond of the open air and beaming with the roses of exercise.

Fanny Davenport's strength is a marvel. Her

father was a man of fine physical proportions, and I have seen Fanny myself, as Lady Gay Spanker, catch her Dolly in a rapturous embrace and swing him three times round her, his feet performing a dizzy circle in the air but never touching the floor. Fanny doesn't do that now. The antics that woman went through a couple of years ago, when she was trying to get rid of her superabundant flesh, would have killed an ordipary woman, but produced little or no effect on her. Mary Anderson is a woman whom nearly all the men of my acquaintance have been hopelessly in love with at one time or another, and, strangely enough, all women like her, too. Her charm of manner depends on her good blue grass constitution, and I am not sure that she does not owe more of her freedom from care and worry to good health than to religion, though the latter gets all the credit with her. The Bernhardt used to have the agility and strength of a cat. Patti is a robust woman. The queens of opera and tragedy are women of majestic physique. Frau Materna is imposing to look on. Lili Lehman is a woman of magnificent health.

Japauschek is an old woman, but a vigorous one. Modjeska is as charming as when she was younger. I have seen poor Selina Dolaro, when she must have been past forty, carry a whole theatre full of people into raptures by the vigor and physicial perfection of a Spanish shaw dance. Annie Robe is so sound of health that her skin keeps fresh enough to call for no make up after years on the stage. She has never even tried a dash of powder. Annie Pixley is a well woman, with a skin as soft as a baby's. Rosina Vokes was something of an invalid last year, but years ago, when the Vokeses were all together, it was the bloom and flush of health in the faces of the girls, quite as much as Fred Vokes' funny long legs and Fawdon Vokes' funny short ones, that made them popular. Rosina is very fond of horses, and she never paints. She has a fine constitution to back her.

One hears much of Ellen Terry's invalidism, but she is better than she looks. She has never taken care of her skin and the result is mislead-She rubs on a dense coat of chalk for the stage, takes no pains to get it off, and her face is shriveled and dead-looking under the sunlight next morning. It is her own fault, and she has plenty of life otherwise. Miss Eastlake does herself injustice in the same way. She is as well as a woman could be, but sometimes looks delicate because she has been careless with cosmetics and hurt her complexion. Grace Hawthorne has made her success in London by the buoyant optimism that belongs to a good digestion. The whole army of soubrettes, who pattern after Lotta and Maggie Mitchell, trade on their strength and freedom from bodily ills. They conquer popularity by force of turbulent health. Invalids on the stage are rare birds. Emma Abbott flaunts her exhuberant life in your face. Kate Claxton would be dead before now if she were not physically sound to a remarkable degree. I knew a boy who made a plentiful meal of choke cherries and milk because be had heard the combination warranted to produce stomachic disorder and keep a lad home from school. In the same way sore throats are conveniences to singers, and Helen Dauvray's recent nervous prostration disappeared with marvelous suddenness the day after she disbanded her company and freed herself from the necessity of flinging good money after bad.

There has never been any nonsense about fashionable pallor on the stage. Stage beauties, in spite of late hours, the vexation and fatigues of traveling, the strain of the work, exposure to draughts, etc., are strong women, and women off the stage are finding out that by cultivating health they too cultivate in equal proportion good looks and charm.

ELIZA PUTNAM HEATON. The Women's Congress.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal NEW YORK, Oct. 1 .- The fifteenth annual congress of the Association for the Advancement of Women, which comes off in New York next week, will be very largely attended. The session will last for three days. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe has served for some years as president of the body, and the list of officers and directors includes Professor Maria Mitchell, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, Mrs. Edna D. Cheny, Elizabeth B. Chase, Miss Frances E. Willard, the Rev. Antoinette Brown Blackwell, Miss Ada C. Sweet, Mrs. Imogene C. Fales, Miss Mary F. Eastman, Mrs. Frances E. W Harper, Mrs. Emma C. Bascom, of Wisconsin University, Dr. Annie D. French, Elizabeth Boynton Harbert and a long list of others. The health, educational and industrial progress of women are the heads under which most of the topics to be discussed can be included. The organization grows steadily and its yearly sessions call out some of the most thoughtful women in the country. Extensive preparations have been made to extend the hos-

pitalities of the city next week. Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher denies the statement lately made that Mr. Beecher was a spiritualist. In a recent letter she writes that they frequently attended seances together, but never saw anything to give them faith in spiritualistic manifestations. It would have pleased Mr. Beecher, she says, to believe that certain things were true, but nothing was ever brought for ward that convinced his reason. None of the

family are spiritualists, Mrs. Beecher says. The tea gown is something that women will never let go. The tea gown has come to stay. The daintiest of these house robes are made of the soft materials which will flow in long folds of drapery. The tea gown has revolutionized silks. A host of silks are now woven for its especial behoof, cobwebby stuffs that yield in serpentine lines to every motion of the figure. The Corah silks and Victorias are favorites this fall, and next them rank the thinner woolens in soft, fairy textures, as fine as the looms can make them. There are exquisite shades of color in cream white, pale water green, apricot, seashell pink, old rose, old blue, olive yellow and cameo reserved for these half dress and wholly delightful gowns. Pale terra cotta opening over lace is an autumn toilet. All the tea gowns revel in flowing sleeves, and all of them use silk cord girdles, ribbons and laces to their heart's content. They are very feminine gowns and withal graceful, giving height to the figure and bringing out its good points. They may revolutionize evening gowns yet, for some of them are elaborate enough for the dressiest of dress occasions now, and all of them are so comfortable that the fact can't but have its influence in setting the fashion for other styles of gowns.

Reviving the Reticule.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. New York, Oct. 1 .- It is understood that opera-glass bags and the dainty little plush pockets for handkerchiefs that our belles have for the past year been wont to carry about with them are to be superseded this season by the regular old-fashioned reticules that our grandmothers used to delight in. And, indeed, this fashion will certainly prove a charming one in many ways. A fashionable woman nowadays is obliged to take so many indispensable articles about with her that it is absolutely necessary to have some convenient receptacle in which to stow them so that they shall be near at hand. Ordinary dress pockets are becoming almost obsolete, principally because modistes will persist in putting them in such out of the way places that it is impossible to gain access to them. Who has not seen some unfortunate woman in the midst of a crowd assembled, a theatre or a street-car for instance, rise from her seat and perform all sorts of acrobatic contortions in the vain attempt to find her pocket and extricate therefrom her handkerchief or smelling bottle? Everybody will surely welcome our grandmother's reticules as a pleasing change. Of course one must possess as many reticules as gowns, satin and silk ones to match evening toilets and others of more sober cast for shopping purposes. They may be ornamented with lace and flowers or fur and feathers, and they may contain anything from a batiste handkerchief to the latest design in enamel bon-bon boxes. At any rate, every woman of taste will admit that from an æsthetic point of view any kind of reticule, even one of the plainest pattern, will be preferable to those monstrosities in leather called shopping-bars and which are to be placed in the same category as ulsters and rubber cloaks. CLARA LANZA

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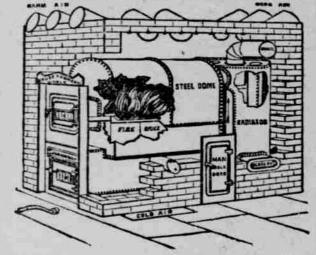
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